

REMARKS

Claim 4 is pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-3 and 6-19 are canceled. No new matter is added by this Amendment.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (as the amendments merely cancel claims 1-3 and 6-19); (c) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claim 4 contains allowable subject matter.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

Claims 3 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Although Applicants respectfully disagree with the Patent Office's conclusions, Applicants have canceled claims 3 and 19. The Patent Office's rejection is moot.

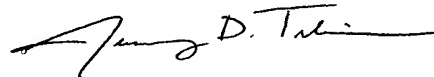
Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claim 4 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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